

(Draft - Awaiting Formal Approval)  
**MINUTES OF THE**  
**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES INTERIM COMMITTEE**  
Wednesday, May 20, 2009 – 8:30 a.m. – Room 250 State Capitol

**Members Present:**

Sen. D. Chris Butters, Senate Chair  
Rep. Paul Ray, House Chair  
Sen. Gregory S. Bell  
Sen. Allen M. Christensen  
Sen. David P. Hinkins  
Sen. Patricia W. Jones  
Sen. Luz Robles  
Rep. Trisha S. Beck  
Rep. Bradley M. Daw  
Rep. Eric K. Hutchings  
Rep. Christine A. Johnson

Rep. Kay L. McIff  
Rep. Ronda Rudd Menlove  
Rep. Phil Riesen  
Rep. Stephen E. Sandstrom  
Rep. Evan J. Vickers

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Mark D. Andrews, Policy Analyst  
Ms. Cathy Dupont, Associate General Counsel  
Mr. Thomas R. Vaughn, Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Joy L. Miller, Legislative Secretary

**Note:** A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

**1. Committee Business**

Chair Butters called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

**MOTION:** Rep. Ray moved to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2008 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Bell, Sen. Jones, Rep. Hutchings, Rep. Riesen, and Rep. Vickers were absent for the vote.

**2. Interim Study Agenda**

Chair Butters referred the Committee to "2009 Master Study Resolution Excerpts: Health and Human Services Topics," which was included in the mailing packet.

Dr. David Sundwall, Executive Director, Utah Department of Health (UDOH), outlined areas he would like the Committee to study. These areas include health workforce issues (related to item 1), health reform (items 23, 66, and 69), prescription drug misuse and abuse (items 72, 77, and 104), cancer prevention (items 110 and 161), and obesity and its related health costs.

Ms. Lisa-Michele Church, Executive Director, Department of Human Services, distributed and reviewed "Human Services General Fund Budget Cuts" and "DORA SFY 2010 Proposal." In light of the budget reductions made by the Legislature during the 2009 General Session, she asked that the Committee indicate whether it prefers that her department provide the same level of services to fewer people or fewer services to the same number of people. She also asked that the Committee study disabilities, recovery services (child support), aging programs, pediatric care at Utah State Hospital, human services providers, Drug Offender Reform Act (DORA), and contract monitoring. She requested that counties be allowed some time to address the Committee about human services issues.

Rep. Menlove requested that, for each program being considered for elimination, Ms. Church provide information on the level of services required by those in the program and the per person cost. She requested a list of all reports the department is required to prepare and information on how much money is being lost due to losses in matching funds from the federal government.

Rep. Johnson asked that Ms. Church provide information on how these cuts have impacted employee retirement, how department morale has been impacted, and how cutting 180 employees has otherwise affected the department.

Ms. Tanji Northrup, Director, Health Insurance Division, Utah Insurance Department, stated that she had no additional issues to raise for study because many of the division's issues are being handled by the Health System Reform Task Force.

Ms. Renae Calkins, Utah Foster and Adoptive Family Association, distributed a packet of letters from foster parents explaining how a cut to foster parent provider rates will affect their families. She stressed that foster parents are not private providers and receive approximately 1/3 of what private providers receive.

Ms. Bethany Hosking, foster parent, commented that Utah is about 40 percent short of reimbursing foster parents what it costs to provide care for foster children.

Ms. Mindy Lundgreen, Utah Foster Care Foundation, expressed concern that when foster parents' rates are cut there will be a decrease in foster parents, which may force children into higher cost care.

Ms. Liz Zentner, Utah PTA Health Commissioner, asked that the Committee study 2009 General Session H.B. 189, "Instruction in Health Amendments." She said that the Utah PTA cannot support a change that would liberalize the sex education curriculum, but would like the Committee to study the possibility of obtaining federal HIV/AIDS money to provide counseling to junior high and high school students who are sexually active and need more information.

Ms. Korey Capozza, Voices for Utah Children, requested that worker access to job-based health insurance coverage be discussed during the interim. She said the issue is key to health care reform efforts.

Ms. Kris Fawson, Legislative Coalition for People with Disabilities, asked that the Committee look at the Department of Human Services advisory and policy boards that were eliminated during the 2009 General Session. She indicated that elimination of the boards also eliminated the transparent system created for public input.

Chair Buttars asked Committee members to circle the items on the list of potential study items that they are interested in studying this interim and to give the list to the cochairs.

Sen. Bell pointed out that a number of these items will be considered by the Health System Reform Task Force.

Chair Buttars said that he would put Master Study Resolution Item 73, "Hospital Emergency Services," on the list of potential study items. Rep. Sandstrom expressed interest in the Committee studying Item 61, "Abusive Work Environment Prohibition." Rep. Johnson said that she would like the Committee to study a health insurance mandate for coverage of eosinophilic gastrointestinal disorders. Rep. Hutchings said that he would like a chance to brief the Committee on Item 65, which studies moving the Medical Examiner's Office and the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services from the Department of Health to the

Department of Public Safety.

### **3. Pandemic Preparedness**

Dr. Sundwall distributed a handout "Novel Influenza A (H1N1)." He said the UDOH is concerned because it is a novel virus to which no one has immunity. He outlined what individuals can do to stay healthy and said the individuals should stay alert but not be alarmed.

Dr. Robert Rolfs, UDOH, stated that it is impossible to predict the behavior of an influenza virus. He stressed the need to pay attention and be ready for it to do something unexpected.

### **4. Open and Public Meetings Act**

This item was not discussed.

### **5. Healthy Family Partnership**

Rep. Curtis Oda distributed a report "Health Family Partnership Resolution Summit Report." He explained that each year he has challenged the junior high students in his area to take up an issue to work on. This year the students have decided to target domestic violence.

Mr. David Turner, Principal, North Layton Junior High, explained that the students wanted to address the following: (1) ways to prevent developing habits of building bad relationships, (2) dating violence in the early teen years, and (3) avoiding habits that lead to domestic violence and child abuse later in life.

The following students from Central Davis and North Layton Junior High schools addressed the Committee and outlined their findings: Sterling Arnold, Lauren Farr, Katie Miller, Conner Simmons, Lauren Adamson, Hayden Gerrard, Jenessa Knight, and Parker Shaw.

Mr. Andrews distributed 2010 General Session draft resolution, "Healthy Family Partnership House Resolution" to the Committee.

**MOTION:** Rep. Ray moved to approve 2010 General Session draft legislation, "Healthy Family Partnership House Resolution" (2010FL-0029/003) as a committee bill with the following amendment: on line 29, delete "has" and insert "have". The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Hutchings and Rep. Riesen were absent for the vote.

### **6. Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Sen. Jones moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Riesen was absent for the vote.

Chair Buttars adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.